

In the Specification

Please add the following paragraph at page 1, above line 2 after the Title:

This application is a National Stage Application of International Application Number PCT/EP03/06391, filed June 13, 2003; which claims priority to German Application No. DE 10227599.8, filed June 20, 2002.

Please amend page 8, line 11 as follows:

In a further method according to the present invention, the arrangement of the groups A, Y and PRG may be interchanged. Indeed, the reagent according to the invention may be present with its components being arranged in different ways, so far as all functional requirements for the performance of MeCAT are still met.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 8, line 28 through page 9, line 2 with the following:

In an alternative reagent according to the present invention, the arrangement of the groups A, Y and PRG may be interchanged. Indeed, the reagent according to the invention may be present with its components being arranged in different ways, so far as all functional requirements for the performance of MeCAT are still met.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 9, line 20 through page 10, line 2 with the following:

In a further embodiment of an inventive reagent according to the present invention, the reagent includes a chemically and/or enzymatically cleavable linker between the groups A, Y and/or PRG. In general, this linker can be made up of CH₂-groups, which are located between the groups A, Y and/or PRG, thereby joining these groups. One or more of the CH₂-groups can be substituted, wherein the character of the substitutions is not relevant, so far as the functions of the groups A, Y and PRG are not affected. Advantageously however, one can introduce further functions via the linkers, like e.g. the chemical and/or enzymatic cleavability mentioned above. Possible substitutions are alkyl, alkenyl and alkoxy groups, aryl groups, which may be substituted with one or more alkyl, alkenyl, and alkoxy groups, acidic groups and basic groups. Moreover, double and triple bonds may be present within the linker, and heteroatoms like e.g. O, S and N may be inserted, e.g. in the form of a linker containing a disulfide group.